III. *Dr.* Mullineux *his Account of a Stone of an extraordinary bigneſs, ſpontaneouſly voided through the* Urethra *by a Woman in* Dublin.

WOmen are made by Nature of a more nice Compoſition, and weaklier Frame than Men, and are therefore liable to many Infirmities that Men are not the leaſt ſubject to. Yet in one of the moſt painful that afflicts the Body, the Stone in the Bladder, they have much the advantage, and are more rarely troubled with it than Men.

For among the two vaſt Collections of Stones, that amount at leaſt to ſeveral Thouſands, kept together in the Hoſpitals at *Paris l' Hotel Dieu* and *la Charité*, cut out only of ſuch as come thither to be cured, not one in an Hundred, I might ſafely ſay more, is taken out of a Woman.

This remarkable difference muſt certainly proceed from the Urinary Paſſage in this Sex, being ſhorter, larger, and more apt to dilate; ſo that for the moſt part, when Gravel, or a ſort of viſcous claiy matter, which I take to be the chief Cauſe of the Generation of the Stone, falls into the Bladder, 'tis ſuddenly and eaſily diſcharged, e're it can cohere together and form a Stone of any large Bulk, which cannot ſo frequently happen in Men, by reaſon of the narrowneſs, crookedneſs, and length of the Paſſage of the *Urethra*

However it ſometimes comes to paſs, that even in Women, either from a more depending, or leſs elevated Poſture than uſual in their Bladder, or that the matter forming the Stone adheres to ſome part of its Membranes, ſo that it cannot fall in the Urinary Paſſage, till

its own Bigneſs or Gravity forceth it thither, Stones of a very conſiderable Bulk are generated.

Of this we have lately had here in *Dublin* a very remarkable Example: One *Margaret Plunket* alias *Weldon*, to give her her Maiden Name according to the *Iriſh* way, the Mother of Five or Six Children, Cozengerman by her Mothers ſide, who was the Lord *Netherfield's* Siſter, to my Lord *Tirconnell*, born in the County of *Meath*, about Sixty Years of Age, now living in *Church-ſtreet*, *Dublin*, on *May* 29. 1691. voided through her Urinary Paſſage, by the help of Nature alone, without the uſe of Remedies, or any forcible means whatever,
V. *Fig.* 1. a Stone of this Shape and Size, ſomewhat reſembling a hard Pear a little preſs'd or flatted.

Its Circumference meaſured the longeſt way is 7 Inches and $\frac{3}{10}$, round about where it was largeſt 5 Inches $\frac{3}{4}$; its Weight at preſent, according to *Troy* Pound, ℥ij, ʒij, ℈j, *gr.* 6. for it has loſt conſiderably both of its firſt Bulk and Weight by many little Fragments breaking off from the ſmaller end *A*, where 'tis much ſofter, ſmoother, whiter, its parts more porous, and ſo incoherent, that the leaſt force ſevers them: Whereas the bigger end *B*, as far as the Stroke *ccc* paſſes, is of a very different Texture, much more cloſe and compact, covered with a yellowiſh ſhining Cruſt, ruff, granulated, and as hard as the beſt *Portland* Stone.

This different Texture of Parts in one and the ſame Stone, obſervable in moſt of this kind if they be of a large Size, proceeds, I am apt to think, from the ſame conſtant Bed or ſettled poſture of the Stone in the Bladder, whereby ſome parts of it are more expoſed to imbibe the Moiſture of the Urine as it falls or ſettles in the Bladder than others; and by this ſort of Maceration are kept ſoft, whilſt thoſe parts that lie higher towards the upper Region of the Bladder remain dry, harder, and gather a ſort of gritty Cruſt, as we find moſt ſoft Stones do,

do, that are dug out of the moiſt Earth, when expoſed a while to the dry Air.

It ſeems to me very probable, that Stones when they come to be of a large ſize, keep much one and the ſame poſture in the Bladder at all times, there not being room in ſo pliant and membranous a Body, that always contracts it ſelf to the leaſt Dimenſions it can, to allow a Stone of any conſiderable Bulk; for the Caſe is different in thoſe that are ſmall, to tumble or change its Situation very much.

But however this Conjecture may prove true or falſe, 'tis undeniable, that ſome Stones from their way of Generation muſt of neceſſity remain fixt and immovable in the Bladder; being cloſely joined and united to the very ſubſtance of its Membrane, of which ſort there are ſeveral Examples recorded by *Scenkius*, and other Collectors of Obſervations: And I'm perſwaded this Stone I am now deſcribing may be reckon'd among them: For about the larger end, where 'tis marked *d d d*, there ſtill cloſely adheres ſeveral thin Films and carneous Filaments, which manifeſtly ſhew it was formerly united by this part to the membranous Subſtance of the Bladder, and that lately by its own Weight, or ſome other Accident, it was torn away, and fell into the *Urethra*, through which 'twas voided; and hence it was that this Woman, as ſhe her ſelf told me, never ſuſpected her ſelf, till very lately, at all troubled with the Stone.

For theſe Three Months paſt, whilſt 'twas ſticking in the Urinary Paſſage and coming away, ſhe has ſuffered great Pains, and a perpetual Strangury, or an involuntary dropping of her Water from her; and this Infirmity ſtill continues, by reaſon the largeneſs of the Stone has over-ſtretch'd the Fibres that compoſe the Sphincter of the Bladder in its Paſſage through it, whence their Tone is ſo relaxt, they have loſt all power of Retention: And for this Reaſon, I find all Women that void Stones this

way, of any conſiderable bigneſs, are conſtantly attended with this Weakneſs.

But this Trouble is fully recompens'd by the Remiſſion of her Pains, which, ſince the Stone came away, are ſo abated, that ſhe can walk about, and is now able to come abroad.

'Tis very extraordinary that ſo large a Stone ſhould be naturally voided by the Bladder; and I have read but of very few that come nigh the bigneſs of this, which I have now in my Poſſeſſion, and keep among ſome other natural Productions, as a curious Rarity.

Thomas Bartholine in his *Centuria I^a Hiſt. Anat. Obſervat.* 71. ſets down the Deſcription and Figure of a very large Stone as he thought, though he ſays 'twas but *Ovi Gallinacei magnitudine*, that came from a Woman as this did.

And *Daniel Angelus* in the *Miſcellan. Phyſico-Medic. Germanic. An.* 1676. *Obſervat.* 195. gives the Figure of another Stone, much of the ſame ſize with *Bartholine's*, ſpontaneouſly diſcharged the ſame way.

Likewiſe *Petrus Borellus Centuriæ Secundæ Obſerv.* 22. mentions a Stone, but gives no Figure of it, voided by a Girl through her Urinary Paſſage, *Ovi Anſerini magnitudinis*, as his own Words are, which I ſuppoſe was much of the ſame ſize with this of ours.

But *Nicolaus Tulpius* in his more elaborate Obſerv. *Lib.* 3. *cap.* 7. gives an Account of a Woman 89 Years of Age, that voided a Stone, of which he gives you an accurate Figure, full as broad, ſomewhat longer, and almoſt ℥j heavier than this I have deſcrib'd; yet ſhe lived after it, and was ſo well as to walk abroad.

I mention theſe ſeveral Examples, not only to illuſtrate and confirm the Truth of our preſent Story, even to the moſt incredulous; but as ſo many Arguments, from whence I think, one may reaſonably infer, That no Woman need be obliged ever to undergo the painful and hazardous

hazardous Section of the Stone; though ſome among the Ancients deſcribe the particular manner how the Operation is to be perform'd in this Sex; as *Ælius Tetr.* 4. *Sermon* 4. *cap.* 99. And among the Moderns, Monſieur *Tolet Traitè de la Lithotomie*, *Chapit.* 15. *pag.* 122.

For ſince Nature by her own Power, without the Aſſiſtance of any Help or Remedies, could disburthen her ſelf, and force away ſuch large Stones as theſe here deſcrib'd, why may we not probably conclude, That even thoſe ſtill of a larger, if there be any ſuch bred in Women, as one may well queſtion, ſince all thoſe Accounts of Stones of prodigious Bulk bred in the Bladder, are related of Men only; as if Nature kept ſomewhat the ſame Rule of Proportion in theſe ſort of Productions, as ſhe obſerves generally in the Stature of Men and Women: I ſay, why may not they be brought away, by putting the Body into a convenient Poſture, and ſo by the Hand and Fingers forcing the Stone into the Urinary Paſſage, which by Application of relaxing and ſtrongly emollient Remedies, may be ſo dilated, as to give a free Paſſage to the Stone without any forceable Section?

But this I leave to be determin'd by ſuch, who lighting upon proper Subjects, may have occaſion hereafter to try the Succeſs of this Practice, which if found to anſwer Expectation, may be of ſolid and real uſe.

July 14. *An.* 1691.

SInce my writing the foregoing Account, Mr. *Thom. Proby*, an ingenious Chyrurgion of this Town, has lately in two Inſtances of Fact, ſucceſsfully demonſtrated the Practicableneſs of what I then propoſed only with Probability, touching the Extraction of Stones bred in the Bladders of the Female Sex without any Inciſion, as well thoſe of a large, as thoſe of a ſmaller Magnitude.

The

The firſt Inſtance is the more remarkable, as well for the Girls being very young, and by conſequence the Paſſage of her *Vrethra* ſtrait and ſmall, as that the Stone was extraordinary long, and conſiderably large for one of her Years. The annext Figure expreſſes exactly
*Fig.*2. enough both its Shape and Bigneſs. The Child's Name was *Sarah Cooke*, about Six Years old; for ſome Years paſt ſhe had been ſo miſerably afflicted with the Stone, and a perpetual Incontinency of her Urine, that her Parents at any Hazard were willing to attempt relieving her of ſo violent a Pain, and ſo foul a Diſtemper. Whereupon, *June* the 8th, 1693. the Child being placed in a convenient Poſture in a Man's Lap ſitting acroſs a Table, with her Arms tied down to her Legs by a ſort of Bandage uſual in theſe Caſes, the Chyrurgion firſt paſt his *Catheter* into the Neck of the Bladder, that it might empty it ſelf of all Urine, before he inſerted his Dilatory Inſtrument, or his *Speculum Veſicæ* as one may call it, with which he extended the *Vrethra* as much as poſſibly he might with ſafety, and without putting the Child to extraordinary Pain; afterwards by help of a Directory and Forceps gently thruſt into the Bladder, he brought away the Stone without any manner of Inciſion in about 3 or 4 Minutes time from the paſſing in of his firſt Inſtrument, and put the Patient to ſo little Pain during the Operation, that when it was over, and ſhe laid quietly a-bed, ſhe ſlept without any Opiate 7 or 8 Hours together, as ſhe had not done in many Months before, and is now perfectly well and at eaſe. Whether hereafter the Sphincter of the Bladder may reſtore it ſelf, and become ſo ſtrong, that ſhe ſhall not be liable to a *Stillicidium Vrinæ* as heretofore, the only Inconvenience that may be feared at any time can attend this ſort of Operation, is uncertain as yet, ſince 'tis ſo lately perform'd; but being ſo young a Child, and the conſtant Cauſe of the Relaxation of the Sphincter, the Stone in the Bladder being

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ing now wholly removed, 'tis probable ſhe may recover it, and not be ſubject to this Weakneſs as heretofore.

The other Inſtance is a Child ſomething elder, about 10 Years of Age, her Name *Elizabeth Mortimer*, who has been troubled with an Involuntary diſtilling of her Urine, and other painful Symptoms of the Stone for theſe three or four years paſt; but on *June* the 12th, 1693. was happily relieved by the extraction of a large Stone near as big as a Pigeons Egg, after the ſame manner and method as before deſcrib'd, and with as good Succeſs, though not altogether with as quick Expedition.

From theſe Examples one may reaſonably conclude, That thoſe of intermediate Years as well as Childhood and Old Age, are capable of undergoing this Operation of Extraction of the Stone with Safety: And I make no great doubt to aſſert, That 'tis the only proper and ſecure way of freeing the Female Sex from the Stone in the Bladder, and that ſuch ſhould never be perſwaded to undergo the Section upon any account, ſince the Stone, if it be not of an immoderate bigneſs, may be extracted by dilating only the Neck of the Bladder; and if it be of ſo large a Bulk, (as I have reaſon to think it never, or very rarely is in this Sex) as that it cannot be drawn out this way; then the Section, if the Chyrurgeon be ſo bold as to venture on it, muſt be made ſo wide, as wholly to cut through the ſhort Neck of the Bladder, and to divide likewiſe ſome part of its thin membranous Subſtance, which is known to be of the moſt dangerous conſequence in cutting the Stone, and to be avoided as certain Death to the Patient.

I have added the Figures of the Three Stones I have here mention'd, all expreſs'd as big as the Life. That Mark *Fig.* 1. is the Stone ſpontaneouſly voided by the Old Woman. *Fig.* 2. was taken out of the Child Six

Years

Years Old. And *Fig.* 3. was brought away from the Child Ten Years Old; both theſe without any *Section.*

IV. *An Account of the* Tubera Terræ, *or Truffles found at* Ruſhton *in* Northamptonſhire; *with ſome Remarks thereon. By* Tancred Robinſon, *M. D.* and *R. S. S.*

SIR,

THE *Tubera Terræ* (which you was pleas'd to ſend me, together with a Draught of them drawn with your own Pencil) obſerv'd lately at *Ruſhton* in *Northamptonſhire*, by that curious and learned Gentleman Mr. *Hatton*, are indeed the true French *Truffles*, the Italian *Tartuffi* or *Tartuffole*, and the Spaniſh *Turmas de Tiera*, which are not noted by Mr *Ray* to be found in our Britiſh Soyl. I have ſeen them thrice as large at *Florence*, *Rome* and *Naples*, where they eat them as a delicious and luxurious piece of Dainty, either fry'd in ſlices with Butter or Oil, Salt and Pepper; or elſe out of Pickle, and often boyl'd in their Soup. Of theſe there are three or four Species mentioned by *Matthiolus*, *Imperati*, *J. Bauhine* and *Mentzelius*.

Theſe obſerv'd in *England* are all included in a ſtudded Bark or Coat, the Tubercules reſembling the *Capſules* or
V. *Fig.* 4. Seed-Veſſels of ſome *Mallows* and *Alcea's*; the inward ſubſtance is of the conſiſtence of the fleſhy part in a young Cheſnut, of a paſte Colour, of a rank or hircine Odour, and unſavoury, ſtreaked with many white Veins
V. *Fig.* 5. or Threds, as in ſome Animals Teſticles; the whole is of a globoſe Figure, though unequal and chinky.

What

Fig: 1.

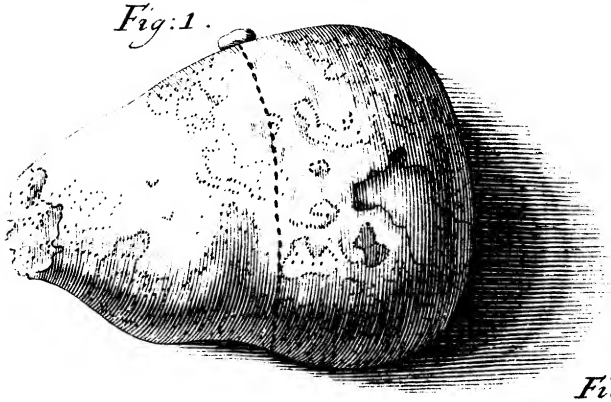


Fig: 2.

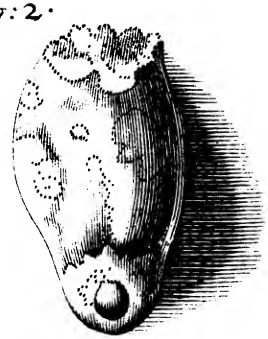


Fig: 3.

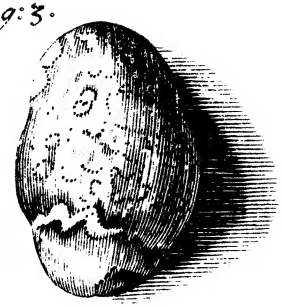


Fig: 1.

Fig: 6.

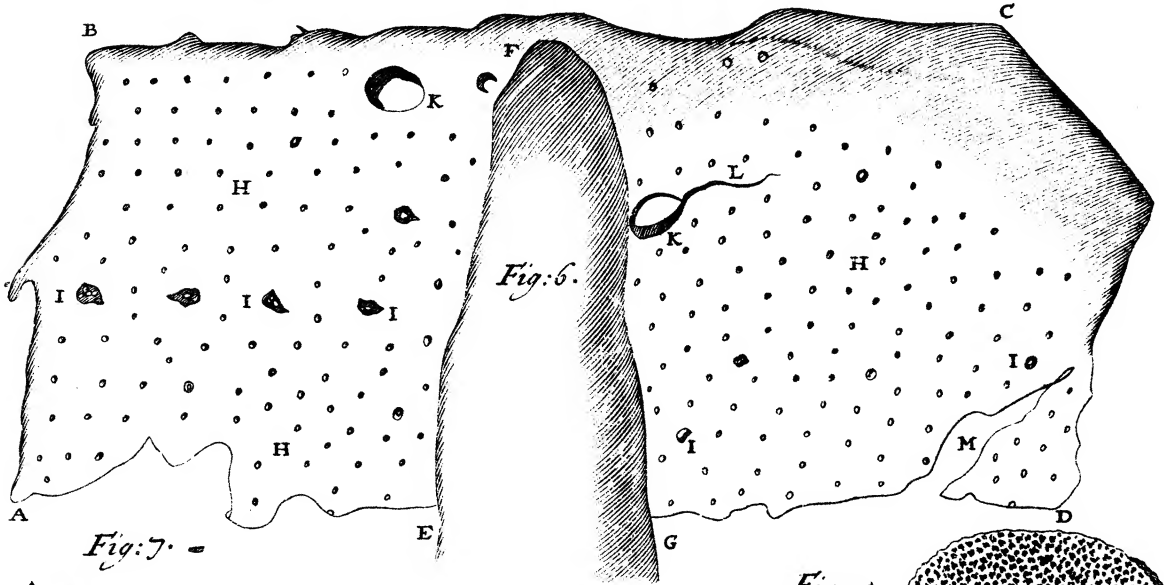
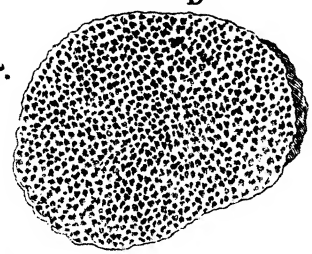


Fig: 7.

Fig: 5.



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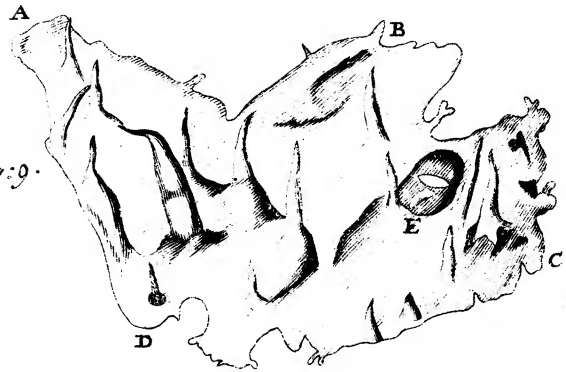

Fig: 4.

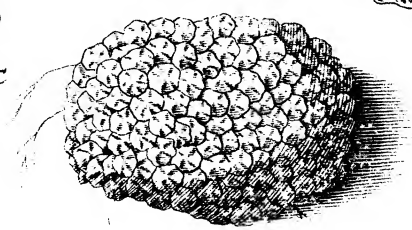

Fig: 8.